

RECOGNIZING CONNIE BALLMER'S  
INCREDIBLE PHILANTHROPIC  
WORK

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 20, 2021*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Connie Ballmer for being the 2021 recipient of the YMCA's A.K. Guy Award, which is presented to an individual with outstanding volunteer service and dedication to social responsibility and equity and justice for all.

Connie Ballmer founded the Ballmer Group in 2015 with the mission of giving every child an equal chance to achieve the American dream. Since then, the Ballmer Group has worked diligently to remove economic barriers that prevent children from having equal access to education opportunities, housing, childcare, mental health resources, and healthcare. The Ballmer Groups has changed systems to allow every child to have equitable opportunities. Making these investments in our children now gives them the best chance at a successful future.

The Ballmer Group's mission has become even more important over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, as millions of families faced further economic strain. Without the incredible work of the Ballmer Group and the leadership of Mrs. Ballmer during COVID-19, many children would have completely lost access to resources critical to their development.

Under Connie's leadership, the Ballmer Group has been able to drastically change the lives of the next generation for the better. From making improvements to the foster care system to expanding access to behavioral health systems, the Ballmer Group has been on the forefront of tackling childhood poverty and ensuring every child has an equal chance to succeed.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege today to thank Connie Ballmer for the enormous contributions she has made to her community and congratulate her on being the 2021 recipient of the A.K. Guy Award.

HONORING THE CAREER AND  
SERVICE OF MR. JOE DRISKILL

**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 20, 2021*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Mr. Joe Driskill and congratulate him on his retirement.

I have had the pleasure of working with Joe over the years, and I have admired his dedication to advancing Missouri's military priorities. Joe recently served as the first Military Advocate for the State of Missouri, where he worked tirelessly to preserve and protect Missouri's military installation by coordinating efforts between the state and federal governments. Joe ensured that the State of Missouri and the Congressional Delegation were always on the same page when it came to Missouri's military priorities.

Prior to his role as the state's Military Advocate, Joe served as the executive director of

both the Leonard Wood Institute and the Sustainable Ozarks Partnership at Fort Leonard Wood. Joe dedicated his career to advancing opportunities at Fort Leonard Wood, and understood the strategic importance the installation has on the region, state, and Department of Defense.

Joe's leadership and expertise was also recognized at a national level. In 2019, Joe was elected as the President of the Board of Directors for the Association of Defense Communities.

I thank Joe for his years of service to the state of Missouri. His leadership has made a difference. Congratulations on his retirement. It has been an honor working with him.

HONORING MINNIE PEARL  
CAMPBELL

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 20, 2021*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable community servant Ms. Minnie Pearl Campbell.

Ms. Campbell was born in January 1967, in Doddsville, Mississippi, located in Sunflower County. Ms. Campbell currently resides in Indianola, MS. There she graduated from Gentry High School in 1985. In 2003, she attended Superior Health Care, in Cleveland, MS, for her Certified Nursing Assistant certification. Then, she went on to Mississippi Delta Community College (2004–2005) for coursework in Medical Billing.

Ms. Campbell has worked in the health care industry since 2003. She said, "After graduating from high school, I wasn't sure of my career path, but I knew I wanted to help others because of my disabled sister. My family worked hard to help her live a fulfilling life. Without my siblings and I making personal sacrifices I doubt if it would have been possible. We didn't have many options around us for a good-quality-level health care assisted facility for people with limited financial resources and family support in Indianola." So eventually, Minnie and her sister (Maple L. Campbell) decided to establish one.

In 2003, after receiving her nursing assistant certification, Ms. Campbell began working for the North Sunflower County Hospital as a Certified Nursing Assistant in Ruleville, MS. This position required her to assist patients with daily living skills, monitor patient vitals, assist with physical therapy, and manage flow chart records of patients. After leaving the hospital and because of her skills, knowledge, and training, Ms. Campbell cared for patients in the privacy of their homes as their personal Adult Care Provider under direction and coordination of care with a medical provider. As an Adult Care Provider, she has worked for Southern Health Care (2004 to Present), Oxford Health Care (2010 to Present), and Private Care (2012 to 2015).

In 2016, Ms. Campbell and her sister, Maple L. Campbell, started the Platinum Plus Care Assisted Living Facility at 617 Highway 82 West, Indianola, MS. Ms. Campbell is the COO and Administrator. The Campbell sisters made history, becoming the first Black/Black female owned and operated full-time assisted

living facility in Indianola. Platinum Care Plus Assisted Living Facility is a twenty-seven-bed facility that offers 24-hours and 365 days a year of care to veterans and elderly adults. It provides care in the areas of administering and monitoring of medication, personal care (bathing and dressing), transportation and personal assistance at medical appointments, care coordination with medical providers, social and recreational activities, housekeeping and laundry, exercise, nutritious and health meals, a social and engaging environment, and more.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Minnie Pearl Campbell for her dedication to being a public servant in the health care industry.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID PATTEN, JR.

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 20, 2021*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a servant leader, professional athlete, and a son of South Carolina. David Patten, Jr., from Columbia, South Carolina, passed away on September 2, 2021 at the age of 47. He was taken from us too soon but lived his life as an example for others to follow and his legacy will live on in the countless number of people he touched.

David was born the third of four children to David Patten, Sr., and Betty Williams Patten. He was a football stand out at Lower Richland High School and earned a full scholarship to play at Western Carolina University.

When he left college, David was passed over by the National Football League (NFL) because of his small stature. But what he didn't have in size, he made up for in determination. While working in a coffee bean factory, he trained hard to achieve his goal of becoming an NFL player and spent time playing in the Canadian and Arena Football Leagues. His big break came at a University of South Carolina Pro Timing Day, when the New York Giants extended him an invitation to try out. The rest is history.

David went on to have a successful 12-year career as a receiver in the NFL, where he earned three Super Bowl rings. He is best remembered for making two iconic catches to help the New England Patriots win their first Super Bowl in 2001. Over the course of his career, David played for the New York Giants (1997 to 1999), Cleveland Browns (2000), New England Patriots (2001 to 2004), Washington Redskins (2005 to 2006), and the New Orleans Saints (2007 to 2008). He played in 147 NFL games, caught 324 passes for 4,715 yards and scored 24 touchdowns.

His motto "maximum effort" grew from his philosophy that one must work hard to be the best at whatever he pursued. When he retired from the NFL, David applied his motto to finishing his degree in social work at Western Carolina. He became an ordained minister in 2013. He also became a property investor, renovator, and landscaper, all while applying his motto, "maximum effort" to his life experiences.

David was a powerful motivational speaker. The driving force in his life was his Christian faith, and he became well known for his mission to be an ambassador for Christ. David